DENTON COUNTY HOMELESSNESS LEADERSHIP TEAM

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

United Way of Denton County, Inc.

Thursday, June 13, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
United Way of Denton County (1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)

Agenda

I.	Welcome & Consideration of April 2019 Minutes	T. Gilmore	2 min.
II.	Nominating Committee	T. Gilmore	5 min.
III.	Salvation Army Presentation	S. Thomas/P. Smith	15 min.
IV.	Emergency Solutions Grant	D. Shaw/C. Cross	15 min.
V.	Workgroup Updates		40 min.

- Data — K. Gonzales
- Housing — T. Widmer
- Ad Hoc Committee — C. Cross
- Shelter Planning — C. Cross
    i. Funding Proposal to Denton City Council
- Ending Veteran Homelessness

VI.	Denton County Homeless Coalition Update	M. Jones	10 min.
VII.	Backbone Support Update	C. Cross	10 min.

- New Hire – Hope Rodgers
- Final Data Report

VIII.	New Business	T. Gilmore
IX.	Adjourn	T. Gilmore

Next Meeting Date:
Thursday, August 8, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | United Way of Denton County

CITY OF DENTON

LEWISVILLE
Deep Roots. Broad Wings. Bright Future.

United Way
of Denton County, Inc.

Thursday, April 11, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
United Way of Denton County, Inc. (1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)

Meeting Summary

Appointees/Ex-Officios Present: Alice Mankoff, Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell, Councilman TJ Gilmore, Councilwoman Keely Briggs, Courtney Cross, Dale Tampke, Dani Shaw, Emily Taylor, Mary Jones, Mayor Thomas Muir, Nicole Recker, Roy Metzler, Sheryl English, Stephen Coffey, Terry Widmer, Valerie Foster

Appointees Absent: Ashleigh Feryan (regrets), Cynthia Harris (regrets), Deputy Chief Frank Padgett, Gary Henderson, Isabel Rodriguez, Jessica DeRoche (regrets), Leroy Schuetts (regrets), Herman Oosterwijk, Josh Ashford (regrets), Kathy Srokosz (regrets), Mayor Chris Watts

Guests: Sarah Kuechler (City of Denton), Katherine Gonzales (United Way of Denton County), Alyssa Mostaffa (United Way of Denton County), Eileen Hall (Giving Hope)

Welcome & Consideration of February 2019 Minutes

Chair Councilperson TJ Gilmore called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

Chair requested a motion to approve February 2019 minutes.

Motion: Terry Widmer
2nd: Dr. Mary Jones
Motion was approved.

Giving Hope board member Eileen Hall informed the group she was attending in DCHLT Appointee Cindy Harris's place.

Welcome New Appointees

Chair welcomed two new appointees and invited them to share their background. Dale Tampke is the new appointee for Health Services of North Texas; he has been in Denton since 2008, and also serves on the board of Our Daily Bread. Ashleigh Feryan is the new appointee for the City of Lewisville; she could not be at the meeting due to scheduling conflicts; the Chair assured the group that Ashleigh is a 'bucket of awesome'.

Homelessness Data Report/Point-In-Time Count Report

Courtney presented a draft of the report. Appointees provided feedback and made suggestions for improvement. Courtney will share the final draft of the report when it is complete.

Workgroup Updates

Data Workgroup

Katherine provided an update of the Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard. As of March 31, 2019 there were 528 actively homeless households in Denton County's Coordinated Entry System. There were 29 Veteran households, 119 households experiencing chronic homelessness and 16 households experiencing homelessness as a result of fleeing domestic violence. Further details can be found online: https://www.unitedwaydenton.org/homelessness-data-denton-county.

The workgroup continues to make improvements to the dashboard and has identified a timeline for rolling out the addition of System Performance Measure updates over the summer.

Housing Workgroup

Terry Widmer provided and update on the Housing Workgroup, stating that the addition of the Homelessness Initiatives Coordinator and Housing Navigator has helped to open doors. The workgroup meets biweekly for case conferencing to prioritize the top households on the Housing Priority List. The group reviews households categorized by priority population (chronic, Veteran and domestic violence survivors), and assigns action steps. Substance Use treatment is still a frequent and unmet service need.

Ad Hoc Committee

UWDC backbone support has engaged a student group at UNT to assist in the aggregation and analysis of housing affordability data. Additionally, UWDC staff is participating in a City of Denton Affordable Housing Workgroup. The workgroup will meet before the June DCHLT meeting.

Shelter Planning Workgroup

UWDC staff is working with City of Denton staff to identify funding options for recommendations made by the Shelter Planning Workgroup in their Fall Summary Report. The Workgroup will meet in early May to review a menu of funding options for recommendation to Denton City Council May 21st.

Ending Veteran Homelessness

UWDC Backbone support continues to collaborate with Community Solutions' Built For Zero data collaborative to improve local homeless data and work towards the goal of Ending Veteran Homelessness by 2020. Additionally, the Denton County Homeless Coalition is exploring the possibility of a 100-day challenge early next year, to house 25-30 Veterans over the course of 100 days.

The next step towards these goals includes a Veteran-specific case conferencing meeting (scheduled for April 17th) during which Veteran service providers will identify barriers, housing needs and supportive service needs of all the Veteran households currently identified. This will allow us to identify common problem areas to focus on as a community, develop opportunities to enhance service provision and advocate for increased community resources.

Denton County Homeless Coalition Update

Dr. Mary Jones provided an update on the Denton County Homeless Coalition. The coalition is planning a 100-day challenge to house 30 Veterans early next year. Mary informed the group that the coalition will be bringing bold, audacious asks back to the DCHLT and to local governments in June.

Backbone Support Update

Courtney provided an update on Barriers Fund activity and on Denton County Days advocacy trip to the Texas Legislature in February.

New Business

Chair requested any new business from the group. Councilperson Keely Briggs requested a presentation from a women's Veteran housing project in Lewisville. Sheryl English shared about a recent trip to Washington D.C. as a Denton Housing Authority Board Member; she shared that affordable housing is projected to be a hot topic during the 2020 election.

Adjournment

Chair requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Motion: Councilperson Keely Briggs
2nd: Dr. Mary Jones
Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting:
Thursday, June 13, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | United Way of Denton County, Inc.
(1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)

_____   _____

Secretary   **Date**

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

June 2019

DCHLT DATA WORKGROUP | CHAIR: STEPHEN COFFEY

June 2019

UWDC backbone support continues to collaborate with the Texas Homeless Network to improve data quality. Staff has also been meeting with Data Workgroup volunteer, Keith Henderson, regularly to identify ways to scrub data from the HMIS database and automate data aggregation processes.

UWDC staff collaborated with the Denton County Homeless Coalition to develop and publish the 2019 Denton County Homelessness Data Report (linked). The report provides a comprehensive overview of the varied sources of homelessness data in the county (including the Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard, 2019 Point-in-Time Count results and Denton County school district data) and the ways in which data informs development, funding and improvement of programs and systems to make homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring. The report was exhibited June 5th on the lawn of the Denton County Courthouse-on-the-Square.

Short-term action items

SPM 5 & 7 added to dashboard June 15th

Create Formulas to generate SPM 2 & 6

SPM 2 & 6 of Data Dashboard July 15th

Accomplishments

Contacted Denton County school district homeless liaisons for data collection purposes

Created graph visualizing total households housed by month

Published 2019 Denton County Homelessness Data Report

Concerns

Training case managers to effectively capture income information during program enrollments and exits to accurately measure SPM 6

Next Meeting Dates

TBD

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

DCHLT HOUSING WORKGROUP | CHAIR: TERRY WIDMER

The Housing Workgroup has convened 4 times between April 22nd and June 3rd.

In May, a portion of the workgroup met to conduct a deep-dive of the Veteran By-Name-List and identify patterns or trends in types and level of need for Denton County's Veteran homeless population. During this meeting, the list of Veterans experiencing homelessness was reduced from 56 to 39 households. The success of this meeting resulted in the establishment of Veteran-specific case conferencing meetings to allow for more time for collaborative, housing-focused case conferencing specific to Veterans.

The remainder of the Housing Workgroup continues to meet monthly to prioritize households on the Housing Priority List. At the start of every meeting, group reviews vacancies in local housing programs along with available rental units through the Doors for Denton County Housing Navigation program. Both groups review HMIS data and discuss the CE process and make recommendations for improvement.

UWDC's Homelessness Coordinator conducts weekly phone check-ins with providers to touch base on outflows and reassessments. The Housing Navigator has joined these calls to review available units and discuss how they can support each programs housing search and placement needs.

In June, the workgroup reviewed the process for reporting abuse, neglect and exploitation through the Department of Family Protective Services. An online training was shared with the workgroup and will be added to the Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures to ensure all future assessors are informed of this process.

Short-term action items

Continued program-specific training based on Standards of Excellence

Highlight guest speakers to address gaps in services

Accomplishments

Attendance and collaboration of providers

Training to report abuse, neglect and exploitation

Concerns

Access to wrap-around services for households with severe service needs

Understanding of program-specific processes and flexibility of funds to assist households for extended periods as needed

Next Meeting Dates

June 17th, July 1st, July 15th

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

DCHLT AD HOC COMMITTEE | HOUSING SOLUTIONS

Attendees: Gary Henderson, Dani Shaw, Terry Widmer, Dr. Mary Jones, Sheryl English, Councilman TJ Gilmore, Mayor Thomas Muir, Stephen Coffey, Alyssa Mostaffa, Courtney Cross

The committee met June 4th to discuss next steps for this group. Dani Shaw (City of Denton) reviewed the City of Denton Housing Study. This study will be conducted by an outside consultant that looks at the current and projected housing need for Denton County. Shaw states that this consultant will provide data needed to assess the need to hopefully bring more housing solutions to Denton.

The group facilitator, Courtney Cross, presented a brief assessment of Denton County affordable housing communities. This assessment asked local property managers questions about the existing communities, struggles they face and plans for future development.

The main takeaways were:

- The stigma of affordable housing and what that means to the community at large
- The property managers want more support and interaction from service providers
- Every participant and their employers see the need for more affordable housing in Denton County
- Every participant expressed interest in new housing projects

The group discussed this data as group members made connections from their prospective backgrounds to what this assessment presented. The group talked about tenant education, high turn over of service providers/property managers, and other perceived issues around affordable housing.

The conversation turned to discussing potential solutions and how to support the City of Denton with their housing study while also gathering information for more than Denton proper. **The group is interested in helping the city gain support from the county/major cities to conduct a county-wide housing study; members suggested the DCHLT convene Denton County Mayors and city managers to discuss the project**.

The committee also talked about innovative ways they could incentivize affordable housing in their own communities; recognizing that the answer to that is different for every community. Backbone support talked about how the group could leverage other data points (like the ALICE data) to help inform cities decisions moving forward.

Short-term action items

Backbone support plan and facilitate a meeting with local leadership. (City mayors, city council members, county officials, etc.)

Accomplishments

Identified next steps for this committee

Concerns

Data collection and reporting to key stakeholders

Next Meeting Dates

TBD

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

DCHLT SHELTER PLANNING WORKGROUP | CHAIR: ROY METZLER

May 8, 2019

Members Present: Ashleigh Feryan, Carrie Powell, Dani Shaw, Jane Piper-Lunt, Michelle Conner, Rhonda Love, Roy Metzler, Sarah Kuechler, Taylor Cameron, Tyheshia Scott, Kaitlin Barbati, Kevin Sample, Courtney Cross

The workgroup met to review funding options based on the recommendations brought to Denton City Council earlier this year. Sarah Kuechler reviewed the the workgroup's December meeting and recommendations made to council. City staff and UWDC staff have identified funding options at the direction of council.

Sarah reviewed the slide presentation with a focus on the shelter proposal slides. The priority recommendation inlcudes funding to allow the Monsignor King Outreach Center to be open 7 nights a week with paid staff to support enhanced shelter services and intensive, housing-focused case management. Other items include funding for diversion, outreach and increased housing outcomes.

Plans also include continued collaboration with the DCHLT for long-term solutions such as day shelter and co-location of homeless and housing services. Workgroup members asked questions regarding length of stay in shelter and the sustainability of funding.

Chairperson Roy Metzler requested a motion to approve the funding recommendations:

> Motion: Wendy McGee
>
> 2nd: Tyheshia Scott
>
> Motion was approved.

The workgroup agreed to meet after the funding recommendations were brough to Denton City Council. UWDC staff with coordinate with Lewisville staff to bring a presentation to their council as well.

Short-term action items

Present recommendations and funding options to to DCHLT & Denton City Council

Determine action items from respective governing bodies

Accomplishments

Developed Denton County shelter inventory

Drafted and administered shelter feedback survey

Developed summary report of findings

Concerns

Availability of local resources to implement recommendations

Next Meeting Dates

TBD

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

ENDING VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

UWDC Backbone support continues to collaborate with Community Solutions' Built For Zero data collaborative to improve local homeless data and work towards the goal of Ending Veteran Homelessness by 2020.

Staff is also engaged in the Denton County Homeless Coalition's goal to a 100-day challenge to house 25-30 Veterans in January of 2020. The DCHLT Housing Workgroup has established Veteran-specific case conferencing to work towards this goal. Additionally, UWDC has engaged the Denton County Veterans Coalition to support the 100-day challenge as a step in the goal to end Veteran homelessness.

There is still work to be done to prepare for a 100-day challenge, including the establishment of the necessary lines of communication and housing-focused and sustainability training for case managers assisting Veterans moving from homeless to housed.

The Denton County Homeless Coalition has established sub-committee to support this goal and is developing a fundraising campaign to rally support for the 100-day challenge in the fall. The campaign will target landlords and property managers willing to make units available as well as a giving campaign for the Denton County Homelessness Barriers Fund.

Short-term action items

Collaborate with Denton Count Veterans Coalition to develop fundraising campaign

Accomplishments

Veteran By-Name-List Case Conferencing

Concerns

Timely implementation and consistent tracking of progress towards goal

Next Meeting Dates

TBD